



McColl Superfund Site

Fullerton, California
June 1996

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) announces a Record of Decision for Groundwater at the McColl Superfund Site

The U.S. EPA completed and signed a **Record of Decision**¹ for the management of **groundwater**² under the McColl Site on May 15, 1996. Specifically, the remedy includes: lining drainage channels, grading or placing low permeability materials outside the channels, on-site management of surface water running onto the property, installing up to two new monitoring wells in the regional aquifer and long-term groundwater monitoring. These actions are intended to reduce the quantity and pooling of surface water onto the site and thereby reduce the migration of **perched** contaminated **groundwater**³ to the regional aquifer. The groundwater remedy will be constructed in conjunction with the source remedy (June 1993) for the McColl waste sumps which will be a closure/containment system for the sumps. EPA believes the selection of this remedy can be integrated with the design of the source remedy, resulting in time and cost efficiency. If, after the construction of the infiltration controls and the closure/containment system, contamination is detected in the regional aquifer, EPA has included a provision to control future groundwater use.

The U.S. EPA groundwater decision has been generally supported by the State of California's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), the community, and the McColl Site Group.

¹Record of Decision: A public document that explains U.S. EPA's decision on how a site will be cleaned up. It is based on the information and technical analysis generated through the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study process and after consideration of public and State comments and community concerns.

²Groundwater: Underground water that fills pores in soil or openings in rocks to the point of saturation. Where groundwater occurs in significant quantity, it can be used as a water source.

³Perched groundwater: Refers to a body of groundwater above the main or regional aquifer. An aquifer is an underground formation of material such as sand or gravel that can store or supply water to wells and springs.

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PERCHED GROUNDWATER BENEATH THE MCCOLL SITE

As described in the February 1996 fact sheet, perched groundwater beneath the site is contaminated; however, there is not significant contamination of the regional groundwater. Only very low concentrations of tetrahydrothiophene (THT) compounds, which cause the water to taste and smell bad (but do not pose a health risk), appear to have reached a limited portion of the regional aquifer.

STATUS OF PROPERTY TRANSFER

Early last year, EPA began discussing with residents living near the site the possible end use (final appearance) of the Ramparts portion of the McColl Superfund Site. As a result of these discussions, EPA learned that many residents preferred to extend the Los Coyotes golf course onto the previously undeveloped Ramparts portion of the McColl Site. EPA participated in meetings with interested parties to answer questions relating to EPA's role in the possible transfer of ownership of the (tax-defaulted) Ramparts property. Orange County has tentatively scheduled an auction of the Ramparts property for June 20, 1996.

Please direct any questions regarding this property to Congressman Ed Royce's office (714) 992-8081.

CONTAINMENT/CLOSURE DESIGN UPDATE

The Integrated Conceptual Design for the Source remedy, which describes the waste containment system (cap and subsurface barrier) for the 12 McColl Site waste sumps/pits is complete. The project is on schedule to have the Draft Final Design, including specific construction details, completed by October 1996. Testing of materials to be used in the containment system is currently underway. Construction of the closure/containment system is scheduled to begin in December 1996; however, some field work may begin as early as this fall.

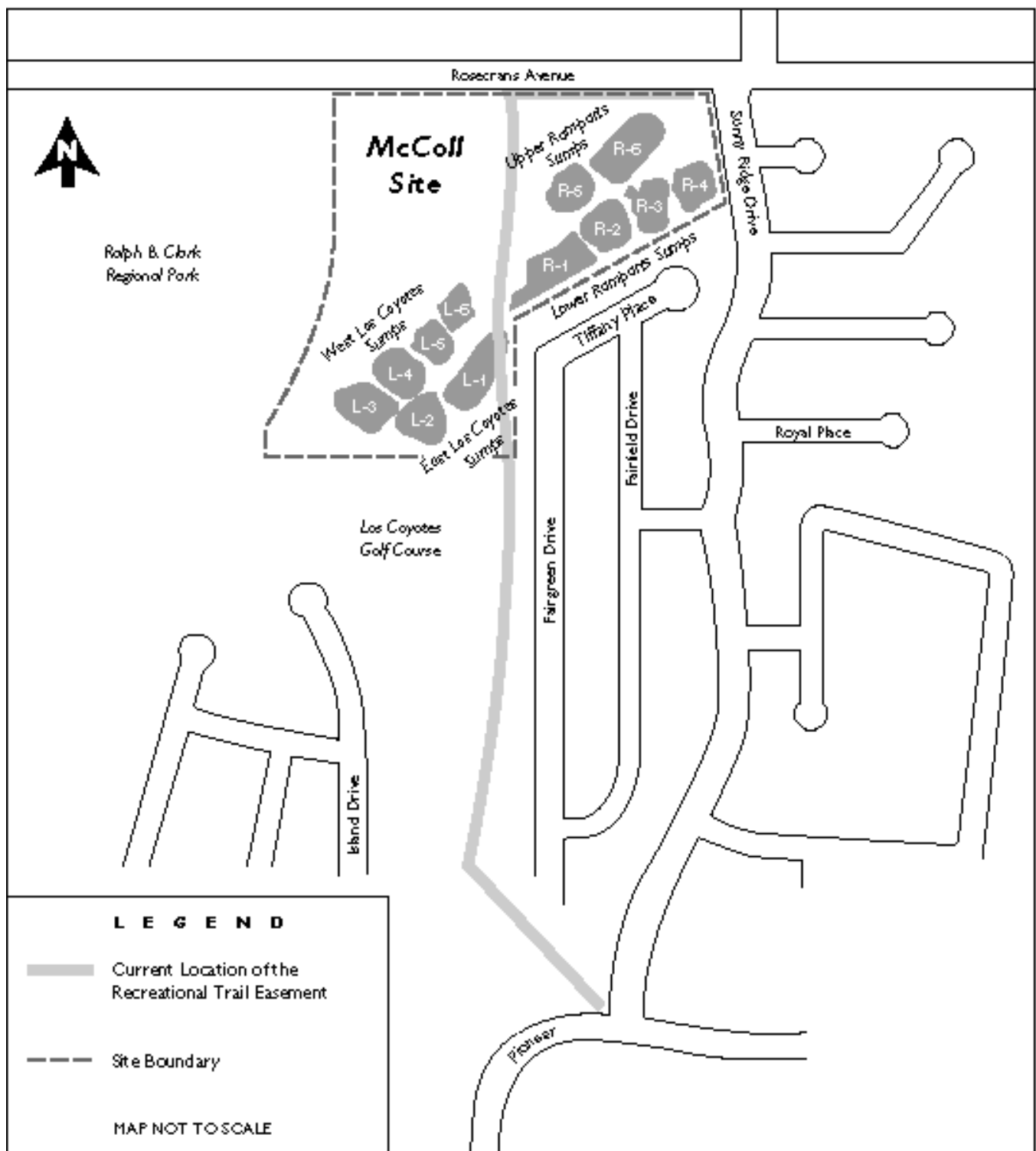
RECREATIONAL TRAIL EASEMENT

The City of Fullerton has an easement/recreational trail (created in 1976) which runs across the McColl Site. A group that advocates on behalf of the trail system has written the city expressing an interest to re-establish the portion of the trail that has been closed on the site. The location of the current recreational trail easement is illustrated in Figure 1. EPA's goal is to facilitate discussions amongst the various parties regarding the final appearances and uses of the site while ensuring the design and construction of the closure and containment system remains on schedule. On May 21, the Fullerton City Council voted to start abandonment proceedings on the recreational trail easement through the McColl Site and decided to find and evaluate alternative easement routes. The community will have an opportunity to comment on this decision during the City's upcoming formal comment period regarding this decision.

Please call the City Planning Department at (714) 738-6544, with questions regarding the easement and trail.

New McColl Site EPA Project Manager

As of July 1, 1996, Patti Collins will be assuming project management responsibilities for Michael Montgomery and Brian Swarthout at the McColl Superfund Site. Michael Montgomery will be working full-time on another Superfund Site for EPA and Brian Swarthout will be leaving EPA to go to graduate school. Ms. Collins has been a technical project manager for 18 years and has managed a wide variety of Superfund sites including industrial waste and mining waste. Please call her at (415) 744-2229 if you have any questions regarding the McColl Site.



**McColl Site Map Showing Option for Recreational Trail Easement Location
(Figure I)**

For More Information

Documents for the McColl Superfund Site are located in the information repository at:

Fullerton Public Library
Local History Room
353 W. Commonwealth Avenue
Fullerton, CA 92633
(714) 738-6333

Hours:

Monday - Thursday	10 am - 9 pm
Friday	10 am - 6 pm
Saturday	10 am - 5 pm
Sunday	Closed

If you have questions about the Superfund cleanup at McColl, please call or write EPA's Community Relations Coordinator for the site:

Fraser Felter, Community Relations Coordinator
U.S. EPA, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street (H-1-1)
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 744-2181

You may also call EPA's toll-free Superfund hotline and leave a message. Your call will be returned.

The hotline number is: (800) 231-3075

Patti Collins, Project Manager (415) 744-2229
U.S. EPA, Region 9 Fax (415) 744-2180
75 Hawthorne Street (H-6-5)
San Francisco, CA 94105
collins.patti@epamail.epa.gov

Important McColl Superfund Site Telephone Numbers

McColl Security Office	(714) 523-5310
California EPA Public Participation Section	(916) 445-9543
U.S. EPA Media Contact: Paula Bruin	(415) 744-1587

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street (H-1-1)
San Francisco, CA 94105
Attn: Fraser Felter

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